

Bi-Weekly Z-GRAM 2 May 2008

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The Z-gram- IOOS is an informal way of keep you up on what's going on in our NOAA IOOS Office and NOAA IOOS activities. Please advise of additional addressees, or if you are receiving and no longer want to receive. If you think others could benefit from the Z-gram please pass it on. If you want to see previous Z-grams go the IOOS website under program updates

Programmatics:

- NOAA IOOS Office - Farewell to Patricia Murray - although she has only been with us a short time, we have really appreciated her efforts. We lost a great team member to the commute in DC.
- FY08: Congrats. The following second year awards have been made: Chesapeake Inundation Prediction System (CIPS): Flood Forecasts for Coastal-Bay-Estuary Resiliency to Storm Surge; A Prototype Operational Modeling System for Waves, Coastal Currents, Inundation and Hydrologic Flooding for Eastern North Carolina ; The Distributed IOOS Regional Data Node Framework; Standardization of Local Data Network Nodes in the GCOOS-RA; IOOS Observation Registry; Data Network Node Visualization; Enhancing the Pacific Northwest Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System (RCOOS) of NANOOS; Expansion of the Carolinas Coast Marine Weather Template within the SECOORA Region; Maximizing the Economic Return from the Northeast Regional Association (NERACOOS). The following RA Cooperative Agreements have awarded: AOOS; CeNCOOS and GCOOS.
- Congressional Report: Kim Cohen has provided me the next draft and my schedule did not permit me to clear this report back to NOAA Seniors.
- FY09: VADM Lautenbacher will testify in the Senate for NOAA FY09 budget next week. We continue to answer Q&As from both the House and Senate on IOOS.
- FY10: On 7 April OMB released a memo stating the following: "The FY 2010 Budget will be submitted by the next President. In order to lay the groundwork for the incoming Administration, we intend to prepare a budget database that includes a complete current services baseline." This is not unexpected and no additional guidance has been provided.
- FY11-15: **No change**

Initial Operating Capability - Data Integration Framework (DIF)

- IOOS DMAC Standards Process: Spring IOOS DMAC Steering Team meeting - May 6-8, Silver Spring, MD. If you have not registered and are not participating in the US DMAC standards process - **WE NEED YOU**. Please log into the following website: <http://ioosdmac.fedworx.org/ioos/dmac.nsf/WhatsNew?OpenForm> and participate in the US DMAC standards process.

- What the DIF?: We continue to work on data schema and input to the models of Coastal Inundation, IEA, Hurricane Intensity, and Harmful Algal Bloom.

IWGOO: Next meeting 29 Mayl

- IWGOO IOOS Strategic Plan: Comments from the public comment period are being addressed.
- OOI-IOOS white paper: **No change**
- MAST: IWGOO members relieved a briefing on the progress of the MAST. It was clear to all of us that, again, through the dedication of may folks we have made progress in area of modeling. The IWGOO members are now providing comments to Ocean.US to focus the way forward for this effort.

Collaboration:(projects will stay on the email through to completion)

- Bathymetric collection California and Interagency Partners: **No change.**
- Army Corps of Engineers collaboration on a National Waves Plan: NOAA IOOS is in the process of receiving comments from HSRP; NOAA's Ocean and Observing Council. The comments we have seen so far are very helpful but will require that we take sometime to address them before we will be able to publish this plan.
- NOAA-Navy collaboration on the GODAE server: The ball is in my court to discuss with Navy.
- Waves in PORTS®: **No change**

Other:

- The last two weeks I have been on the road conducting 7/11 Regional Association assessments. I sincerely appreciate the effort that you have put forth in providing us the information. We conducted GLOS and AOOS individually, GCOOS/CARA/SECORA together followed by MACORA/NERACOOS. While I could write for pages on the wonderful efforts you are doing, I will simply say the following:
 - Each RA is working hard to understand user requirements
 - You have taken what the Federal agencies and Ocean.US have asked you to do and made it a reality. Your briefs have been outstanding and the dialog very beneficial.
 - You have significant capacity that is delivering key elements of what we want to build together in IOOS!!!
 - My team has learned a great deal and I am encouraged that you have also found these meeting worthwhile.
- I do want to thank our host for the last two RA assessments - GCOOS and MACORA/Rutgers University. We appreciate your sincere hospitality in hosting these assessments.

- Thank you to Jeff Payne and Roger Zimmerman representing two of our NOAA Regional Collaboration Teams for participating in our GCOOS/CARA/SECORA assessment. We look forward to stronger collaborations with you in the future.
- **Rutgers University to attempt Glider Atlantic Crossing:** I was able to do a site visit with Rutgers University the day after the MACORA/NERACOOS assessment. Rutgers is attempting a cross Atlantic glider run. This is a really exciting effort since it involves freshman at Rutgers University who are building and planning the mission. They have had their first success with a run, a 1500 mile run to Halifax. Check it out on UTube:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_ZYoTzpbIA. Their next endeavor is crossing the Atlantic. This is a great program that was initiated by two events, a challenge several years ago by NOAA's Dr. Spinrad, and during an Antarctic glider operation a private citizen, Mr. Jules Plangere, became interested in the work Rutgers University was doing particularly because Rutgers was using graduate students in their projects. This led to funding by Mr. Plangere and a vision by Drs Glenn, Schofield and Kohut to put together a freshman marine science class dedicated to this trans-Atlantic crossing by a glider. The end point is Spain. Rutgers University is working with Dr. Enrique Alvarez, Puertos del Estado.
 - Mission looks to depart on 8 May. The anticipated track is first to fly out the Tuckerton Endurance line - decision point at the shelf break. Then into the Gulf Stream - decision point is Halifax., then across the great divide - decision point is Azores.
 - A mission like this is extremely complex; however there has been a tremendous dedication by the Rutgers University - Crossing the Atlantic - class to be excited enough to attempt this.
 - Victory is already at hand because this class is making the attempt. Scott Glen tells me you will be able to follow their daily blog on this mission.<http://marine.rutgers.edu/cool/news/blogs.html>
 - A hearty GOOD LUCK from all of us dedicated to Ocean Observing.
- MACORA is providing Glider training to the Navy and NATO: I visited with an ongoing Glider training class while at Rutgers University. This is a good example of IOOS and USN working together. The class was originally developed under IOOS funding for last year's mid Atlantic glider run, it was the first time IOOS ran a glider mission and MACORA needed folks trained. Rutgers University put this training together for the IOOS mission. At the annual glider meeting, Scott Glenn was talking with Terri Paluszkiweicz, Office of Naval Research, on the course because a training need was identified by the Navy. This resulted in a request by Navy for training which completed 2 May. This is a great example of how IOOS can work and leveraging each other's capabilities in that the Navy did not need to develop its own course.
 - Thank you to Eileen Shea who represented NOAA IOOS at the semi-annual Oceans and Human Health meeting in Hawaii.
 - Thank you to Russ Beard and Mary Culver who represented NOAA IOOS at the follow-up Oceans and Human Health observing meeting in Mississippi.

- I had the chance to meet with Dr. Martin Lewis, SATLANTIC, who briefed me on in-situ Ocean color sensors, was complementary of the cooperation he has seen with the US IOOS RA/RCOOS and talked about the benefits he has received from our ACT partner. I was interested to hear that private citizens have purchased their Land/Ocean Biogeochemical observatory (LOBO) system .

Congressional:

- Senate attempting to bundle several pieces of legislation into an "Oceans package" to try and move forward on the Senate floor rather than through the hotline process, where several of these bills are already subject to a hold. NOAA has received word that this package will include four bills, one of which is the IOOS legislation. We do not know when this will be scheduled.

Communications:

- We released a press release focused on NOAA's efforts to integrate ocean data under IOOS - http://www.noaaanews.noaa.gov/stories2008/20080430_oceandata.html. The Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC), Inc. is expected to follow with their own press release. Government Computer News is looking to run a more complete story in mid-may that will allow us to provide more information on the expanse of US IOOS and where we are trying to take this entire national endeavor.
- The press release was then picked up by: http://www.newsletterscience.com/marex/readmore.cgi?issue_id=298&article_id=3149&l=1&s=12998

Upcoming Meetings:

- RA Assessments:
 - 4 JUN, SCCOOS, CeNCOOS, NANOOS - Seattle, WA
 - 12 JUN, PACIOOS - Silver Spring (Telecon)
- 13-14 May: I will participate in SECORA Board Meeting
- 15 May: I will participate in NOAA's Gulf of Mexico Regional Collaboration meeting
- 20-21 May: Hawaii Ocean Observing System (HiOOS) Stakeholder Workshop and PacIOOS Governance Meeting - Kim Cohen will attend for IOOS.

For those of you still reading, I send this to you from SeaGals, my home in South Litchfield, South Carolina - where I am able to observe the ocean first hand and get our home spruced up (read a lot of painting on my part) for the summer season.

Cheers,
Zdenka